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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/008,624	12/06/2001	Harold J. Plourde JR.	A-7313	3244

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SCIENTIFIC-ATLANTA, INC.
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EXAMINER

CHOWDHURY, NIGAR

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2621

DATE MAILED: 10/19/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/008,624

Applicant(s)

PLOURDE ET AL.

Examiner

Nigar Chowdhury

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 July 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-42 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-42 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 06 December 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Double Patenting

1. Objection to claim 18, 39 are overcome.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-42 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-6, 9, 13, 20, 22-27, 30, 34, and 41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,985,669 by Unger in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,211,858 by Moon et al. as set forth in the last action

4. Regarding claim 1, Unger discloses a media content recording system in a subscriber television system, comprising (Fig. 1, Col. 3 line 10-17):

- A memory for storing logic (Col. 6 line 20-25)
- A buffer space for buffering a plurality of media content instances (Col. 4 line 51-53)
- A processor configured with the logic to designate as permanent only a media content instance among the plurality of media content instances in the buffer space that is requested by a user for permanent recording (Col. 4 line (Col. 4 line 27-31).

Unger fails to disclose the processor configured with the logic to designate as permanent through configuration of a status flag of a management file corresponding to the media content instance.

Moon teaches a status flag in the status bar to indicate a new e-mail has arrived (Fig. 5, Col. 5 line 41-48. When user open up the new e-mail, it's change the status of the e-mail from new to old. And user can also save the e-mail by clicking save button on the image buttons at 120).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have status flag in the status bar to show the user if any new message come up in the file. User doesn't have to check email to see any new mail come up or not. User can know by looking at the flag in the bar.

5. Referring claim 2, Unger discloses the processor is further configured with the logic to provide a user interface, responsive to input from the user, that segregates the media content instances of the buffer space into separately identifiable media content instances and enables the user to select and permanently record at least one of the media content instances (Fig. 1, Col. 3 line 10-17, Col. 4 line 27-31)

6. Considering claim 3, Unger discloses the processor is further configured with the logic to enable the user to permanently record a displayed media content instance of the buffer space by selecting a button on an input device during any buffered and displayed frame of the media content instance to be permanently recorded (Fig. 1, Col. 5 line 41-44).

7. Referring claim 4, Unger discloses the processor is further configured with the logic to provide the buffered media content instances as entries in a displayed pre-configured list that enables the user to select which entry to be permanently recorded (Fig. 1, Col. 5 line 41-44, Col. 5 line 20-27).

8. Regarding claim 5, the processor is further configured with the logic to maintain the management file for each of the buffered media content instances, wherein the processor is further configured with the logic to maintain the status flag in the management file wherein the status flag is configured as temporary for a buffered media content instance that is not designated for permanent recording.

Unger discloses PVR includes a bookmark feature with which a user can specify and capture segments of an audiovisual program. Unger also discloses captured clip which is indexed and labeled for subsequent retrieval. Unger fails to disclose status flag.

Moon teaches a status flag in the status bar to indicate a new e-mail has arrived (Fig. 5, Col. 5 line 41-48. When user open up the new e-mail, it's change the status of the e-mail from new to old. And user can also save the e-mail by clicking save button on the image buttons at 120).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have status flag in the status bar to show the user if any new message come up in the file. User doesn't have to check email to see any new mail come up or not. User can know by looking at the flag in the bar.

9. Referring claim 6, the processor is further configured with the logic to configure the status flag of the management file for a buffered media content instance as permanent when the user requests that said media content instance be permanently recorded, wherein the processor is further configured with the logic to cause the permanently recorded media content instance to have a permanent designation in a file allocation table in response to having the status flag of the corresponding management file configured as permanent, such that the buffer space storing the permanently recorded media content instance becomes designated as non-buffer space.

Unger discloses PVR includes a bookmark feature with which a user can specify and capture segments of an audiovisual program. Unger also discloses captured clip which is indexed and labeled for subsequent retrieval. Unger fails to disclose status flag.

Moon teaches a status flag in the status bar to indicate a new e-mail has arrived (Fig. 5, Col. 5 line 41-48. When user open up the new e-mail, it's change the status of the e-mail from new to old. And user can also save the e-mail by clicking save button on the image buttons at 120). Moon also teaches file allocation table in response to have the status flag on the menu (Fig. 7, Col. 6 line 59-67, Col. 7 line 1-7. User can see the status flag in the status bar and also in the menu.)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have status flag in the status bar and menu to show the user if any new message come up in the file.

10. Regarding claim 9, Unger discloses the processor is further configured with the logic to configure the media content instances as media content instance files (Col.4 line 28-35, 43-48, Col. 5 line 50-63. In this reference file is clip.).

11. Claim 13 is rejected for the same reason as discussed in the corresponding claim 6 above.

12. Referring claim 20, Unger discloses the processor is further configured with the logic to delete the permanently designated media content instance as requested by the user (Fig. 3, Col. 6 line 58-60)

13. Method claims 22-25 are rejected for the same reason as discussed in the corresponding system claims 1-4 above.

14. Method claims 26, 27, and 34 are rejected for the same reason as discussed in the corresponding system claims 5, 6, and 13 respectively above.

15. Method claim 30 is rejected for the same reason as discussed in the corresponding system claim 9 above.

16. Method claim 41 is rejected for the same reason as discussed in the corresponding system claim 20 above.

17. Claims 10 and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,985,669 by Unger and U.S. Patent No. 6,211,858 by Moon et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,920,567 by Doherty et al. as set forth in the last office action

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18. Considering claim 10, the processor is further configured with the logic to randomly generate file names for the media content instance files.

Unger discloses PVR includes a bookmark feature with which a user can specify and capture segments of an audiovisual program. Unger also discloses captured clip which is indexed and labeled for subsequent retrieval and Moon discloses status flag

Unger and Moon both fails to disclose randomly generate file name.

Doherty teaches randomly generate file name on the system and stored in the system for future (Col. 6 line 49-53).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have system for installing a digital content file by randomly generate file name for user to use that in future.

19. Method claim 31 is rejected for the same reason as discussed in the corresponding system claim 10 above.

20. Claims 7, 8, 11, 12, 28, 29, 32, and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,985,669 by Unger and U.S. Patent No. 6,211,858 by Moon et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,591,421 by Sullivan as set forth in the last office action

21. In claim 7 the processor is further configured with the logic to use media content instance guide data to determine the start time and stop time of a media content instance buffered into the buffer space.

Unger discloses PVR includes a bookmark feature with which a user can specify and capture segments of an audiovisual program. Unger also discloses captured clip which is indexed and labeled for subsequent retrieval and Moon discloses status flag but Unger and Moon both fails to disclose the guide data.

Sullivan teaches program guide data to determine the start time and end time of the media content (Col. 5 line 54-67, Col. 6 line 1-20).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have guide data to determine the time of starting and ending of the recorded program.

22. Referring claim 8, the processor is further configured with the logic to determine the receipt time into the buffer space by using the time indicated by an internal clock.

Unger discloses PVR includes a bookmark feature with which a user can specify and capture segments of an audiovisual program. Unger also discloses captured clip which is indexed and labeled for subsequent retrieval and Moon discloses status flag but Unger and Moon fails to disclose the guide data.

Sullivan teaches program guide data to determine the start time and end time of the media content through the internal clock (Col. 5 line 54-67, Col. 6 line 1-20).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have guide data to determine the time of starting and ending of the recorded program through the internal clock.

23. In claim 11, the processor is further configured with the logic to use titles of the media content instances from media content instance guide data as media content instance file names.

Unger discloses PVR includes a bookmark feature with which a user can specify and capture segments of an audiovisual program. Unger also discloses captured clip which is indexed and labeled for subsequent retrieval and Moon discloses status flag but Unger and Moon fails to disclose title of the content

Sullivan teaches title in the program (Col. 6 line 14-20).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have a title on the program to make it easier for the viewer. Viewer can easily look up the program by the title name.

24. Referring claim 12, the media content instance file names include channel number, the media content instance title, and the source of the media content instance.

Unger discloses PVR includes a bookmark feature with which a user can specify and capture segments of an audiovisual program. Unger also discloses captured clip which is indexed and labeled for subsequent retrieval and Moon discloses status flag but Unger and Moon both fails to disclose title and channel of the content.

Sullivan teaches title and channel in the program.(Col. 6 line 14-20).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have a title on the program to make it easier for the viewer. Viewer can easily look up the program by the title name or the channel number.

25. Method claims 28, 29, 32, and 33 are rejected for the same reason as discussed in the corresponding system claims 7, 8, 11 and 12 respectively above.

26. Claims 14-19, and 35-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,985,669 by Unger and U.S. Patent No. 6,211,858 by Moon et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,675,375 by Riffie as set forth in the last office action

27. Regarding claim 14, the processor is further configured with the logic to buffer analog broadcast media content instances, received at a communications interface, as digitally compressed media content instances.

Unger discloses PVR includes a bookmark feature with which a user can specify and capture segments of an audiovisual program. Unger also discloses captured clip which is indexed and labeled for subsequent retrieval and Moon discloses status flag but Unger and Moon both fails to disclose compressor.

Riffie teaches compressor which compresses digital signal (Fig. 2, Col. 4 line 50-60, Col. 6 line 10-14).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have compressor to increase the speed of the transmission of the signals.

28. Claims 15-18 are rejected for the same reason as discussed in the corresponding claim 14 above.

29. Claim 19 is rejected for the same reason as discussed in claim 18 above.

30. Method claims 35-40 are rejected for the same reason as discussed in the corresponding system claims 14-19 respectively above.

31. Claims 21 and 42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,985,669 by Unger in view of (a) U.S. Patent No. 6,591,421 by Sullivan, (b) U.S. Patent No. 5,675,375 by Riffie, (c) U.S. Patent No. 6,211,858 by Moon et al., (d) U.S. Patent No. 6,920,567 by Doherty et al. as set forth in the last office action

32. Claims 21 and 42 are a combination of claims 1-20. Therefore claim 21 is rejected for the same reason as discussed in the corresponding claims 1-20 above

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nigar Chowdhury whose telephone number is 571-272-8890. The examiner can normally be reached on 9 AM - 5 PM.

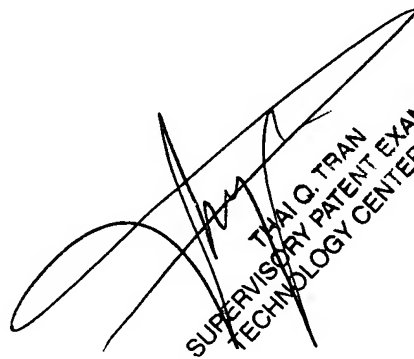
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thai Tran can be reached on 571-272-7382. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

NC

10/11/2006



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